



Michigan Coalition for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind People

~a non-profit organization

ASL Deafined

Association for the
Advancement of Deaf and
Hard of Hearing

Boyer Interpreting

DeafCAN

Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Services

Deaf and Hearing Interpreting
Services

Hearing Loss Association of
America – Michigan

The Holley Institute

Madonna University – Sign
Language Studies

MI Dept of Health and Human
Services – Early Hearing
Detection and Intervention

MI Dept of Civil Rights –
Division on Deaf, DeafBlind
and Hard of Hearing

MI Dept of Education – Low
Incidence Outreach, D/HH

MI Chapter Alexander Graham
BELL Association for the Deaf
and Hard of Hearing

MI Hands and Voices

Michigan School for the Deaf

MI School Professionals for
Students who are Deaf and
Hard of Hearing

New Horizons Rehabilitation
Services

OCC Sign Club

ScreenLine, LLC

Signing Pros, LLC

University of Michigan – Dept
of Family Practice

Voices for Health

September 26, 2018

Dear House Health Policy Committee:

The agencies represented by the Michigan Coalition for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf Blind, in the left sidebar, are in support for the passing of House Bill 4440.

H.B. 4440 is about prevention of CMV through educating women who are pregnant, or thinking of becoming pregnant, their families and health care workers of simple methods to avoid spread of the disease. While the estimated cost to implement this bill is less than \$100,000, the estimated cost to society for treatment of the hearing loss and loss of productivity in adult years, is over \$1 million per child affected.

There can also be also other and even more severe manifestations in children from being infected with CMV while in the womb, that could be even costlier to treat.

As you consider what action you will take regarding the passage of this bill, we ask that you not be limited by the number of children and families already affected and put before you today, but that you consider that this could easily affect your future child, grandchild, niece or nephew.

We ask that you make the right choice to support the passage of H.B. 4440.

Thank you,

Nan Asher

Treasurer